

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 113

By Hicks

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dr. M. Blaine Jones III upon his receipt of the Governor's Volunteer Star Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable citizens who have dedicated their time and energies to helping others; and

WHEREAS, each year, 1.1 million Tennessee volunteers give over 143.9 million hours of community service, contributing \$3.4 billion to Tennessee's economy; and

WHEREAS, they are the backbone of our communities, and by giving their time and talents to fulfill needs that would otherwise go unmet, they embody the spirit of giving; and

WHEREAS, these individuals should be recognized, not only to appreciate their efforts, but also in the hope that it will encourage others to step up and make a difference; and

WHEREAS, Dr. M. Blaine Jones III of Hawkins County is one such exemplary person, who is a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award in recognition of his laudable commitment to his community; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Rogersville High School, Dr. Blaine Jones earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in Nursing degrees from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville; from 1980 until 1994, Dr. Jones was employed by Holston Valley Hospital and Medical Center as a patient care technician, phlebotomist, autopsy assistant, and registered nurse; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jones earned his Doctor of Medicine degree at East Tennessee State University in 1992; following the completion of his two-year family practice residency in 1994, he

practiced medicine at Wellmont Medical Associates in Rogersville until his retirement in 2009; and

WHEREAS, he served as chair of the annual Rogersville Fourth of July celebration for twenty-five years, raising sponsorship money so Hawkins County residents could attend for free; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jones served on the Rogersville Board of Mayor and Aldermen and as chair of the Rogersville Parks and Recreation Board from 1987 until 2005; and

WHEREAS, since 2009, Dr. Blaine Jones has served as chairman of Four Square Inc., which seeks to improve the Rogersville community spiritually, socially, physically, and intellectually; Four Square Inc. hosted the largest day of service in Hawkins County, the "People Loving People" Thanksgiving dinner, which utilized the talents of 400 volunteers to prepare 3,500 hot meals for the community; and

WHEREAS, for the last five years, Dr. Jones has hosted a bi-weekly men's prayer breakfast that draws sixty to ninety people from the community; he led Expecting God's Help, an organization that holds prayer rallies offering hope for families affected by drugs, from 2014 until 2016; and

WHEREAS, he exhibits his devout religious faith as a member of Christ Fellowship Church in Kingsport; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jones is fortunate to share love and companionship with his wife, April Jones, and his children, Emma and Micah Jones; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Blaine Jones is a model citizen, and his commitment to helping others through volunteerism is representative of the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Dr. M. Blaine Jones III for his outstanding community leadership, congratulate him as an esteemed recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.